



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,929	01/28/2002	Yoneo Sato	P 290637 T2TS-01S1247	1451

7590 04/19/2004

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP
1600 Tysons Boulevard
McLean, VA 22102

EXAMINER

TRINH, SONNY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2685

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2004

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/055,929

Applicant(s)

SATO, YONEO

Examiner

Sonny TRINH

Art Unit

2685

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5 and 7-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 January 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/30/03
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. **Claims 2 and 7** are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 2, line 5, the term "...which the first and second terminals..." is unclear. It is assumed that the word "of" is added right after the word which to read as follow:

"...which of the first and second terminals..."

In claim 7, line 4, the term "...which the first and second terminals..." is unclear. It is assumed that the word "of" is added right after the word which to read as follow:

"...which of the first and second terminals..."

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1 and 6** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Miyashita ("Miyashita"; U.S. Patent Number 6,226,536).

Regarding **claim 1**, with reference to figures 4-5 and descriptions Miyashita discloses a portable information apparatus (figure 4, portable apparatus 1) comprising a connected state detecting section detecting a connected state of the portable information apparatus to a cradle a notification method deciding section deciding a method for notifying a user of due items, based on the connected state detected by the connected state detecting section; and a notifying section notifying the notification method decided by the notification method deciding section (figure 5, columns 4-5).

Regarding **claim 6**, this claim merely reflects the method claim to the apparatus of claim 1 and is therefore rejected for the same reasons.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. **Claims 2-5, 7-10** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the objection raised by the Examiner and all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding **claims 2 and 7** the prior art provided numerous examples of changing the mode of the alert signal in a portable communication device when it is connected to a charger, but failed to disclose or fairly suggest the specific combination of structural and functional limitations set forth in claims 2 and 7, specifically, the first and second terminals for connecting a terminal of the cradle, wherein the connected state detecting

section detects which of the first and second terminals is connected to the terminal of the cradle, and the notification method deciding section decides that the notification is performed by a first notification method when the connected state detecting section detects that the first terminal is connected to the terminal of the cradle and decides that the notification is not performed when the connected state detecting section detects that the second terminal is connected to the terminal of cradle.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are allowed by virtue of their dependency on claims 1 and 6 respectively.

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, (for formal communications intended for entry, for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 6th Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sonny TRINH whose telephone number is 703-305-1961. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and on alternate Fridays.

Art Unit: 2685

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed URBAN can be reached on 703-305-4385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


SONNY TRINH
PATENT EXAMINER

4/14/04